

Waterfront business is all in the family

Girl, 15, will operate Harbor Dogs

By John Chaffee
The Patriot Ledger

DUXBURY — A 3-year-old waterfront business will reopen Memorial Day weekend under new management.

Selectmen last night granted a seasonal operating license to Harbor Dogs, the steamer cart outside the harbor master's office at Town Pier. Harbor Dogs sells hot dogs, soft drinks, coffee and bagels to boaters and waterfront visitors.

The business was founded in the summer of 1994 by Seth Potkin, who was then a 15-year-old high school sophomore.

Last year, Seth shared the business with his younger sister, Sarah.

This year, with the approval of the selectmen, Sarah Potkin will operate the business by herself.

"I believe I will do a good job," she told selectmen.

Sarah, 15, will be a junior at Duxbury High School next fall.

"You're a fine example for the youth of our community," Selectmen Chairwoman Margaret Kearney said.

Harbor Dogs will be open weekends until school ends next month, then will be open five days a week, Wednesday through Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Labor Day.

As Sarah Potkin operates the business, the founder won't be far away.

Brother Seth, who just completed his freshman year at Union College

Duxbury

in New York, will be working next door as an assistant harbor master.

In other business, selectmen:

- Gave their approval for a second annual community clambake, which will be held Aug. 30, the Saturday of the Labor Day weekend, on Duxbury Beach. The first clambake, sponsored by the recreation department, attracted 500 people last year.

- Declared a temporary bonus shellfish season in June for the commercial harvesting of softshell clams and quahogs.

- Supported an application for a state grant that would pay for a study of the feasibility of a six-town transportation program for the elderly and disabled. The program would serve Pembroke, Marshfield, Kingston, Plympton and Halifax, as well as Duxbury.

- Got an update from Town Manager Rocco Longo on potential municipal sites for telecommunications towers. Selectman Andre Martecchini cautioned Longo about adverse public reaction and urged him to bring any proposals to a public hearing for discussion.

Because next Monday is Memorial Day, the selectmen will not meet again until June 2.